quantity of imports, international prices, consumption requirements, expectations regarding behaviour of prices etc.

(b) The bid prices quoted depend upon demand and supply position of the commodity, origin of wheat, arrival period, discharge ports, freight and other commercial considerations.

Tenders Floated

	Floated on	Closed on	Qty. (Lakh MTs.) Offered	Finalized on	Weighted Average Price (US$)
First *	30.4.2007	21.5.2007	3.06**	30.5.2007	263.00
Second	26.6.2007	04.7.2007	5.11 **	10.7.2007	325.59
Third	23.8.2007	29.8.07	7.95	03.09.07	389.45

* All bids rejected

** Tender floated was for one million tons

(c) Australian wheat will be available for world export during the month of November - December, 2007. However, as per the report of NCMSL dated 4.9.07 the Australian wheat output may be 18 percent less than earlier due to inadequate rains in the growing region. On overall basis also the World Wheat Production estimates as per USDA dated 10th August, 2007 reported by NCMSL is 610.40 million tonnes against domestic consumption of 620.51 million tonnes indicating a tight wheat situation.

Pending cases in consumer courts

2662. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether is it a fact that there are a number of appeals pending in various consumer courts in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard State-wise and also the state of pendency in consumer court at the national level;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is backlog of vacancies for appointment in consumer courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof at the national level and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) has informed that no such data in respect of State Commissions is separately maintained by the Commission. As informed by NCDRC, 1972 appeals were pending as on 30.06.2007 out of 9715 appeals filed since inception in the NCDRC.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) A statement showing the vacancy position as intimated by the NCDRC is enclosed.

Statement

Information regarding vacancy position in the State Commissions and district forums

(Updated on 31.08.2007)

SI. No.	States	State Commission		District Forum		As on
		President	Member	President	Member	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	National Commission	0	3			31.07.2007
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	0	5	8	30.06.2007
2.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	31.3.2006
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	12	30.06.2007
4.	Assam	1	1	2	4	30.06.2006
5.	Bihar	1	0	23	37	30.06.2007
6.	Chadigarh	0	0	0	0	30.06.2007
7.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	3	4	30.06.2007
8.	D and N Haveli	0	0	0	0	31.07.2007
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	31.07.2007
10.	Delhi	0	0	1	3	31.07.2007
11.	Goa	0	0	0	0	31.07.2007
12.	Gujrat	0	5	4	11	30.06.2007
13.	Haryana	0	2	1	4	30.06.2007
14.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	6	31.07.2007
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	1	30.06.2007
16.	Jharkhand	0	1	8	21	30.06.2007
17.	Karnataka	0	1	4	12	31.07.2007
18.	Kerala	0	0	6	16	30.06.2007
19.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	0	31.07.2007
20.	Madhya Pradesh	0	2	0	24	30.06.2007
21.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	3	30.06.2007
22.	Manipur	0	2	0	0	30.06.2007
23.	Meghalaya	0	1	0	6	31.03.2007
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	30.06.2007
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	30.06.2006

1	2	3	4	5 .	6	7
26.	Orissa	0	0	2	2	30.06.2007
27.	Puducherry	1	1	0	0	30.06.2007
28.	Punjab	1	0	3	1	30.06.2007
29.	Rajasthan	0	0	4	23	31.07.2007
30.	Sikkim	1	0	0	2	31.12.2006
31.	Tamil Nadu	0	1	8	1	30.06.2007
32.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	30.06.2007
33.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	5	34	31.07.2007
34.	Uttarakhand	0	2	1	16	31.07.2007
35	West Bengal	0	0	3.	1	30.06.2007
	TOTAL:	6	23	83	252	

Prices of essential items

2663. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no decline in the rise of prices of wheat, rice, sugar, pulses, edible oils etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the chart showing comparative prices of the items prevailing in the last four years; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to check the prices to make the living of people easy and comfortable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Prices of foodgrains, especially of wheat, pulses and edible oil had registered increase during the previous year (2006-07). Prices have increased mainly due to mismatch between production and demand. Government has taken a number of measures to improve the availability of foodgrains and stabilize prices of essential commodities, as a result of which, the prices of Gram dal and Sugar have declined. Prices of Wheat, Rice and Tur dal are now by and large stable. The graphs relating to month end retail prices of wheat, rice, sugar, gram dal, tur dal, groundnut oil and mustard oil at Delhi from 2004-05 to 2007.08 are enclosed as a Statement *{See* below).

(c) The important measures taken by Government to stabilize the prices for the benefit of the common man are given below:

(i) State Trading Corporation floated a global tender on 26 June, 2007 for import of 10 lakh Mts. of wheat and will import now 5.11 lakh Mts. *(+/- 5%)* during 2007-08.